



भारतीय कृषि एवं खाद्य परिषद्
INDIAN CHAMBER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

www.icfa.org.in



Vision

To unlock the vast potential of India's food and agriculture sector through effective policies, innovations and strategic trade partnerships, thereby contributing to global food and nutrition security and agriculture sustainability.



Mission

To act as a national resource center, think tank, and global platform for facilitating partnerships, driving policy advocacy, and fostering entrepreneurship in the food and agriculture sectors. ICFA aims to empower farmers, enhance the agricultural value chain, and contribute to the economic ecosystem by creating opportunities for trade, technology adoption, and sustainable agricultural development.

*From the Desk of the **Chairman***



With increasing globalization, there are newer challenges emerging that need to be pro-actively addressed for India's food and agriculture sector to grow, engage, and compete globally and contribute towards global food and nutritional security. The Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture is the apex policy think tank, trade facilitation body, and national resource center for the food and agriculture sector in India, serving as a global platform for partnerships. ICFA, through its outreach policy, business agenda, and global partnerships, is creating opportunities for growth, value addition, and trade to help improve the income of farmers. Through its various bodies and partnerships, ICFA seeks to represent the interests of all the stakeholders at the national level on the one hand and position India's food and agriculture sector globally on the other hand.

Besides trade and industry, ICFA focuses equally on farmers and agri-entrepreneurs, helping them connect with market opportunities while addressing their policy, technology, trade, marketing and financing related needs. One of the major issues facing the Indian food and agriculture sector is the issue of food safety, sustainability, and certification of GAP and quality standards of food, which impact Indian exports and consumer safety. ICFA has launched the Healthy Food Initiative, the Food and Nutrition Forum, and the Agriculture Sustainability Council to drive stewardship development. ICFA is also promoting investments, entrepreneurship, technologies, and farm services by forging partnerships with relevant institutions, and facilitating farmer producer organizations, and agri start-ups to accelerate growth and scale up, to help empower farmers.

As we witness the remarkable growth of agriculture worldwide, we are committed to expanding knowledge-sharing sessions and events in collaboration with governments and leading organizations across key countries. Our aim is to build stronger networks, particularly the ICFA District Agriculture Councils, and unlock further development potential in India's agricultural sector. The new leadership at ICFA is designed to cultivate productive partnerships with top stakeholders in agriculture across prominent nations. India stands to benefit significantly as we align our vision and goals in the months and years to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Suresh Prabhu'.

Sh. Suresh Prabhu

Chairman, ICFA

Former Union Cabinet Minister

From the Desk of the Director General

"Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals and happiness," Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the USA had instructed about 200 years ago.

The story of the growth of Indian agriculture is no less than a fairy tale. Not too long ago we were derided as an agriculture "Basket Case", characterized by perpetual shortages and chronic distress in the agriculture sector. Who in our generation can forget PL-480? A wheat imported under this law from the USA which was "fit enough only for the pigs to eat", and this too would be in short supply. And now we have reason to thump our chests having emerged as the "Breadbasket" of the world.

The Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) has emerged as an apex organization supporting these efforts by playing the role of a bridge between diverse stakeholders, including the central and state governments. Guided by a board comprising eminent professionals and practitioners, and operated by a team of committed executives, the ICFA is the most prominent think-tank, knowledge repository and policy advocacy institution in the agriculture sector of the country. It enjoys the reputation of being the most credible voice of agriculture seeking to protect the interests of each and every stakeholder.

We seek to strengthen our role as a think tank, national resource center, and global platform for fostering strong partnerships among the varied stakeholder groups in the food and agriculture sectors creating opportunities for trade, technologies, investments, and entrepreneurship in agriculture and the food value chain.

We shall continue to demonstrate, through our programs and activities, unwavering commitment to our stated vision: "Unleashing the potential of India's food and agriculture sector through policies, trade, and partnerships towards empowering farmers and achieving global food and nutrition security and environmental sustainability."



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Dr. Tarun Shridhar". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Dr. Tarun Shridhar, IAS Retd

*Former Secretary,
Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying,
Government of India*

Background Note

Agriculture remains a cornerstone for rural prosperity, economic growth, and social transformation, particularly in developing regions like India, Africa, and parts of Asia. In India, approximately 45%-50% of the population relies directly on agriculture for its livelihood. The agricultural sector, however, is undergoing transformative shifts, grappling with challenges related to global trade dynamics, food security, climate change, and market access.

Since its inception nearly a decade ago, ICFA has positioned itself as a thought leader and catalyst for change in Indian agriculture. The Chamber represents a wide array of stakeholders and works to ensure a unified approach to address critical policy issues, promote sustainable agricultural practices, and facilitate international trade. ICFA's role is central in bridging the divide among farmers, policymakers, industry, institutions and global markets, fostering collaborative efforts to shape the future of food and agriculture.

Objectives :

1. Serving as the think tank, policy research center, and advocacy body for the food and agriculture sector, ensuring that the diverse interests of farmers, agri-professionals, industry, and research bodies are effectively represented at national and global levels.
2. Facilitating international trade, technological exchange, and investment in the food and agriculture sectors by promoting collaborations with governments, development bodies, and industry players.
3. Promoting sustainable farming systems, food safety and stewardship programs to guide stakeholders toward eco-agriculture solutions and ensuring sustainable growth for agro trade and agribusinesses.
4. Organizing subject specific discussions, conferences and business meets that are designed to generate policy inputs, encourage innovation, foster cooperation, and drive changes in the evolving food and agriculture sector.
5. Connecting farmers to critical market linkages, farm services, and technologies through ICFA's national platforms and partnerships. ICFA also fosters innovation through agritech startups and sustainable farming practices

Constitution :

Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) was established in the year 2015 under section 8, as Not-for-Profit-Organization, with the primary objective of representing the diverse interests of the agriculture and food sectors. It serves as a platform for policy advocacy, knowledge sharing, and facilitating trade and technological partnerships. ICFA works to address the dynamic needs of the farming community, industry stakeholders, and global partners, ensuring sustainable growth, economic viability, and enhanced collaboration for all involved.



WORK AREAS :



Policy Advocacy and Advisory Research



National Knowledge Resource Centre



Trade Facilitation and Global Market Access



Global Platform for Dialogue & Partnerships



Technology and Agri Startups Facilitation



Farmer Market Linkages & Agribusiness Services

ICFA Board Members



Chairman

Sh. Suresh Prabhu

Former Union Cabinet Minister, GoI



Co-Chairman

Dr. Ashok Dalwai, IAS Retd

*Chairman, Karnataka
Agriculture Price Commission,
GoI and Former Chairman
of Committee on Doubling
Farmers' Income, GoI*



Director General

Dr. Tarun Shridhar, IAS Retd

*Former Secretary
Dpt. of Animal
Husbandry & Dairying,
GoI*



Co-Chairman

Dr. Meenesh Shah

*National Dairy
Development Board*



Vice Chairman

Mr. Simon Wiebusch

*Chief Executive Officer
Bayer CropScience
Limited*



Mr. JP Meena, IAS Retd

*Former Secretary
Ministry of Food
Processing Industries*



Mr. RK Tiwari, IAS Retd

*Former Chief Secretary
Government
of Uttar Pradesh*



Dr. H K Bhanwala

*Chairman, MCX India Ltd.
and Former Chairman,
NABARD*



Amb. C. Rajasekhara

*Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India*



Mr. Atul Chaturvedi

*Executive Chairman
Shree Renuka
Sugars Limited*



Mr. Raman Mittal
*Joint Managing Director
International Tractors
Limited*



Dr. Vibha Dhavan
*Director General
The Energy & Resources
Institute*



Mr. Bahadur Ali
*Founder &
Managing Director
IB Group*



Mr. Ashish Khandelwal
*Managing Director
BL Agro Industries
Limited*



Mr. TR Kesavan
*Director and
Group President
Tractors and Farm
Equipment Limited
(TAFE)*

ICFA Board Members



Mr. Sailesh C. Mehta

*Chairman &
Managing Director
Deepak Fertilisers &
Petrochemicals Corp.
Limited (DFPCL)*



Dr. S. Glory Swarupa

*Former Director General
National Institute for Micro
Small and Medium
Enterprises (NI-MSME)*



Mr. Tarun Sawhney

*Vice Chairman &
Managing Director
Triveni Engineering and
Industries Limited*



Mr. Ajit Jain

*Joint Managing Director
Jain Irrigation Systems
Limited*



Dr. HS Oberoi

*Director
National Institute
of Food Technology,
Entrepreneurship and
Management (NIFTEM)*



Mr. Jayen Mehta

*Managing Director
Amul Limited*



Mr. PPS Pangli

*President
Borlaug Farmers
Association for
South Asia,*



Dr. Balvinder Shukla

*Vice Chancellor
Amity University*



Mr. Arun Raste

*Managing Director & CEO
National Commodity &
Derivatives Exchange
Limited (NCDEX)*



Mr. Juzar S. Khorakiwala

*Chairman &
Managing Director
Biostadt India
Limited*



Ms. Sandeepa Kanitkar

*Managing Director
Kan Biosys Pvt. Ltd.*



Dr. Purvi Mehta

*Global Council
World Food Prize*



Mr. Sanjeev K Asthana

*President
Solvent Extractors
Association (SEA)*



Mr. S. Jaipal Reddy

*Convenor
Telangana Farmers
Association*

Knowledge and Business Reports



National Round Table Conferences



ICFA in Media



ICFA Special Purpose Bodies



Leaders Speak about ICFA (2016-17)



Mr. Rajnath Singh
Hon'ble Home Minister,
Government of India

I am happy to launch Indian Council of Food and Agriculture. India needed for long a body like this and I am sure ICFA will effectively represent the interests of various stake-holders to help Indian agriculture. Farmers need voice and I urge ICFA to work towards empowering farmers.



H.E. Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki
Hon'ble Governor of Haryana

Our first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had given a call of Jai Jawan and Jai Kisan (long live soldiers and long live farmers). The time has come to care for farmers. Prime Minister, Mr. Modi has announced renaming the agriculture ministry as the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. We hope, ICFA will be able to work with the Government on the agenda of farmers' welfare.



Mr. M Venkaiah Naidu
Hon'ble Minister of Urban
Development, Government of
India

I am glad to see that Indian Council of Food and Agriculture is being launched today. India's farm sector is looking for policy support. Our Government is fully committed to strengthen agriculture to help improve social and economic condition of farmers. ICFA can play a great role in creating understanding and consensus on major issues concerning farmers and Indian agriculture.



Dr. Raman Singh
Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Chhattisgarh

Problems of India agriculture are largely known to us but innovative solution are required to address the lot of farmers. ICFA can work on major issues to support the Governments by mobilizing national and global expertise, investments and technologies in agriculture.



Prof. MS Swaminathan,
Pioneer of India's Green
Revolution

Indian agriculture has come a long way from the days of "ship to mouth" in fifties and early sixties to now a situation of surplus production in major grains, post Green Revolution. The time has come for Indian food and agriculture to go global. Indian Council of Food and Agriculture is uniquely placed to facilitate trade, partnerships and global cooperation in food and agriculture.



Mr. Suresh Prabhu
Hon'ble Minister of Railways,
Government of India

We realized the need for creating an apex body in food and agriculture to work on trade and policy issues and represent the interests of various stake-holders at the national and global level and thus started consultations way back in 2003. I am sure ICFA will deliver for Indian farmers and for global food trade and agriculture.



Mr. N. Chandrababu Naidu
Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Andhra Pradesh

Indian agriculture has got tremendous potential but it needs transition to become more market oriented for farmers to get best returns. I see great role for ICFA in connecting farmers with the markets nationally and globally by promoting trade and agribusinesses.



Mr. Prakash Javadekar
Hon'ble Minister of Human
Resource Development

The issue of climate change and its impact on agriculture are a major concern to food security globally. In India the issues of GMO, bio-diversity and environmental sustainability need thorough debating and a consensus need to evolve. I see important role for ICFA in creating awareness and facilitating consensus on important issues concerning India and the world.



Mr. Ajay Shriram
Chairman, DCM Shriram Group
and former President,
Confederation of Indian Industry

The new body, Indian Council of Food and Agriculture is a wonderful concept, which can work on food policy issues, agribusiness growth, creation of value chain especially in developing countries. ICFA can also work on developmental programs by forging national and global partnerships and thus play its role in global food and nutrition security and in creating opportunities for resource poor rural population.



Amb. Islam Siddiqui
Senior Advisor, Centre for
Strategic and International
Studies, Washington DC

ICFA shall work towards highlighting the challenges faced by trade and agribusinesses in an environment which is becoming increasingly risk-prone and unpredictable. The Council shall focus on policy issues related to environmentally, socially and economically sustainable ways of building resilience and empowering resource poor farmers on one hand and facilitating global trade and marketing by promoting entire value chain - from "farm to plate".



**H.E. Mr. Alphonsus
Stoelinga**
Ambassador of Netherlands to
India

India and Netherlands have got strong scope for cooperation and partnerships in food, agriculture and dairy sectors. ICFA can play critical role in bringing agro food industry and entrepreneurs of the two countries closer and facilitate greater cooperation.



Mrs. Harsimrat Badal Kaur
Hon'ble Minister of Food
Processing Industries,
Government of India

India is leading producer of milk, horticulture and a number of agricultural items but as we know the processing and value added activities are low and producers market connect is the major challenge, resulting into low returns from farming. ICFA can play a critical role in connecting the farmers with the market and accelerate the growth of agribusinesses.



Mr. Ratan N Tata
Chairman, Tata Group

I am happy to know about the launch of Indian Council of Food and Agriculture with its mandate of serving as the global platform for partnerships towards unleashing the potential of food and agriculture. ICFA can do great service to the farmers and global food and agro industry



Mr. OP Dhankad
Hon'ble Agriculture Minister,
Government of Haryana

India has got everything that a robust agriculture needs, but we are still lagging much behind the global average in yields and in exports. We need best of global technologies, need investments in agriculture and above all we need to position Indian food and agriculture globally. I am looking up to Indian Council of Food and Agriculture to play that role and facilitate the Government of Haryana in finding solutions to the problems we are facing.



H.E. Mr. S Freddy
Ambassador of Denmark to India

I am truly impressed by the entrepreneurial zeal in Young India and its achievements in ICT and other areas. Indian agriculture has also come a long way from the deficit days to surplus situation. However the qualitative improvement in production and food safety and standards can help the country greatly access the global market potential and thus help farmers substantially improve their income levels. ICFA can play an important role.



Siraj A Chaudhry
Chairman, Cargill India Limited

"The food processing sector is of enormous significance for India's development as it provides an important link between agriculture and manufacturing. The food processing sector will help ensure better remuneration and market access for farmers and also reduce high level of wastages. ICFAI will help develop food processing industry which will ensure value addition and generate additional employment opportunities thus leading to better socio economic condition of our society."



Anand Mahindra
Chairman and MD Mahinda Group

ICFA is doing tremendous work towards promoting agriculture agenda and empowering farmers. ICFA should work jointly with the industry towards highlighting the challenges faced by farmers and preparing them for climate smart agriculture. The council should also work on promoting investments, technologies and entrepreneurship in agriculture sector.



Dr. Shenggan Fan
Director General, International
Food Policy Research Institute,
Washington DC

"The new think tank for Indian agriculture, ICFA can exhort agriculture Industry to look ahead of the curve, unleashing the potential of India's food and agriculture sector. ICFA can represent the interests of all the stakeholders at the national level on one hand and position India's food and agriculture sector globally on the other hand.

About Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture

The Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) is the apex body in India dedicated to advancing business, policy, and developmental agendas within the food and agriculture sectors. Serving as a global platform, ICFA plays pivotal role in agro trade facilitation, policy advocacy, technology and agribusiness services. ICFA's proactive approach helps identify and address critical challenges facing Indian agriculture while opening new avenues for national and global partnerships, agro-ventures, investment and international trade. By actively engaging with its various Industry Working Groups and Sector-specific Councils, ICFA amplifies the voice of key stakeholders, including farmers, trade and industry, both at the national and global levels.

ICFA is a leader in driving digital technologies, food and nutrition security, and agriculture sustainability. These efforts have garnered global recognition and strategic partnerships with esteemed organizations such as ICAR, APEDA, WTC, University of California, and many other international entities.

In less than a decade since its inception, ICFA has signed MoUs with over four dozen national and international organizations, reinforcing its position as a knowledge-driven platform, working in partnerships for sustainable growth in the agriculture sector. ICFA is committed to cultivating a thriving ecosystem for entrepreneurship, which holds immense potential for economic growth, sustainable development, and global food and nutrition security.

Partner Institutions



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